

*Robert Bell Ross = mining Contractor, pioneer
Elizabeth Wright Ross = dressmaker, gardener*

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ROBERT BELL AND
ELIZABETH WRIGHT ROSS



Robert Bell Ross was born in a little town near Edinburgh, Scotland, on March 4, 1832, to Robert Ross and Mary Patterson of Scotland. His father died a few weeks before his birth leaving his mother a widow with a large family to raise. With the help of an Uncle Robert, he received an exceptional education for those days. He became a successful mining contractor. In his young manhood he, with some of his sisters, were converted to The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints.

On New Year's Eve of the year 1854, he was married to Elizabeth Wright, daughter of Robert Wright and Janet Stevenson. Elizabeth was born February 28, 1832 at Belleston, Scotland. They were married by an Elder of the church.

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This couple was blessed with but one child, a son, Robert Bell Jr., who was born January 22, 1857. Later the same year when little Robert was but a tiny babe the family with some relatives and other Saints, among whom was Karl G. Maeser, came to America. They crossed the stormy Atlantic in the ship Tuscarora. After the long ocean voyage where they experienced severe storms and much illness they landed at Philadelphia.

The family did not come to Utah at that time, but went to Maryland where relatives resided. From Maryland they went to Kentucky and to Illinois. In the year 1862 they joined a company of Saints who were leaving to cross the great plains to come to Utah. They came with the Homer Duncan Company. After the trials and hardships incidental to these long journeys they arrived at Cache Valley where they resided during the winter.

In the spring they went to Virginia City, Nevada. Here Mr. Ross's mining ability stood him in good stead. In the spring of 1873 the family settled in Midway, where they remained the rest of their lives.

Elizabeth Wright Ross was an expert with the embroidery needle, and was an excellent dressmaker. No one could prepare a better meal, and her skill in gardening is known to all who knew her. She lived to be 92 years old.

Robert Bell Ross died in Midway October 12, 1895, and Elizabeth Ross died October 16, 1924, in Midway. —